

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HALIFA 00180 201413Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-11

COME-00 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 STR-08 TAR-02 SCEM-02 INT-08

OPIC-12 RSR-01 /138 W

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R 201203Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 621

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

UNCLAS HALIFAX 180

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: JOINT NEW ENGLAND GOVERNOR'S- EASTERN PREMIERS' CONFERENCE ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

1. ON SECOND DAY OF TWO DAY CONFERENCE GOVERNORS AND PREMIERS DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS. UNLIKE FIRST DAY'S MEETING CONCERNING ENERGY MATTERS WHICH WAS CLOSED, SECOND DAY'S MEETING WAS OPEN TO PUBLIC.

2. CONFERENCE AGREED ON FORMING A JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPRTATION PARELLELING THAT SET UP PREVIOUS DAY ON ENERGY MATTERS.

3. PREMIER HATFIELD OF NEW BRUNSWICK POINTED OUT THAT HIGH TARIFFS TO PROTECT CENTRAL CANADA HAD KEPT TRADE BETWEEN NATURAL TRADING PARTNERS OF NEW ENGLAND AND EASTERN CANADA AT MINIMUM. AS RESULT UP TO NOW TRANSPORTATION HAS NOT BEEN A GREAT PROBLEM FOR TWO AREAS BECAUSE OF SMALL AMOUNT OF TRADE BETWEEN THEM. PROBLEMS COULD ARISE, HE SAID, IF TARIFFS REDUCED OR ELIMINATED AND PURPOSE OF JOINT COMMITTEE WHICH HAS BEEN SET UP IS TO PROVIDE LONG RANGE PLANNING FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 HALIFA 00180 201413Z

TRANSPORTATION NEEDS.

4. CONFERENCE ALSO PASSED RESOLUTION CALLING FOR:

(A) CONTINUING EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING
TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND PROBLEMS-

B) CONTINUING EXCHANGE OF TRANSPORTATION POLICY
DEVELOPMENT AS RELATED TO INTER REGIONAL NEEDS-

C) COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR COORDINATED
TRANSPORTATION TARIFF AND TRADE POLICIES AND JOINT
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

5. THERE WAS OBVIOUS AGREEMENT ON NEED FOR BETTER AIR SERVICE
NEW ENGLAND AND ATLANTIC PROVINCES, FOR EXAMPLE BETWEEN
HARTFORD AND POINTS IN MAINE WITH NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA.
IMPROVED HIGHWAY FACILITIES FROM NEW ENGLAND TO MARITIMES ALSO
BADLY NEEDED. ROUTE 95 IN MAINE DESCRIBED AS GOING TOO FAR
INLAND TO SERVICE MARITIMES.

6. ON ENERGY MATTERS GOVERNOR CURTIS OF MAINE ECHOED CONCERN OF
PRESIDENT REGAN OF NOVA SCOTIA OVER RECENT MOVES BY WASHINGTON
TO LIMIT IMPORTATION OF REFINED OIL PRODUCTS. HE IS REPORTED
TO HAVE SAID THAT PRESIDENT NIXON'S PROPOSED TARIFF ON
REFINED OIL BEING BROUGHT INTO U.S. COULD SERIOUSLY
AFFECT NEW ENGLAND'S SUPPLY OF FUEL. HE SAID AREA BARELY MADE
IT THROUGH LAST WINTER AND PROSPECTS FOR THIS WINTER ARE EVEN
GRIMMER. IF NOVA SCOTIA HAS SURPLUS REFINING CAPACITY, FUEL
STRICKEN NEW ENGLAND SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO IMPORT
PRODUCTS WITHOUT PAYING ADDITIONAL IMPORT TARIFFS.

7. CONSENSUS SEEMED TO BE THAT CONFERENCE VERY SUCCESSFUL IN
PAYING GROUND FOR THE TWO GEOGRAPHIC AREAS TO WORK TOGETHER IN
FUTURE IN MATTERS SO VITAL TO BOTH--- ENERGY
AND TRANSPORTATION.

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